

Statements

RADIO TALK ON NATIONAL HOME DEMONSTRATION WEEK

April 25, 1947 at 12:35 P.M., over WIS

SHADWELL: Today's home builds tomorrow's world. That's the theme for National Home Demonstration Week, May 4 to 11. And, to tell you what it's all about, we have here in the studio Miss Lonny Landrum, State Home Demonstration Agent, and a very important guest. Miss Landrum, will you tell us the meaning of this week and introduce our guest?

LANDRUM: Gladly, Mr. Shadwell.

Accent on tomorrow. That's the viewpoint America's rural homemakers will urge the Nation to share with them during the week of May 4 to 11. Their homes--and yours too--will build tomorrow's world.

So important does he consider the work of these rural homemakers to our Nation and to our own beloved State that His Excellency, the Governor of South Carolina, is here to pay tribute to these women and to proclaim National Home Demonstration Week in South Carolina. Governor Thurmond, we appreciate your interest and are honored by your participation on this program.

GOV. THURMOND: I have always been interested in the Home Demonstration program and am happy to proclaim ~~next~~ ^{the} week, May 4 to 11, as National Home Demonstration Week in South Carolina --- a time when county, state and nation will give well deserved recognition to a group that has done so very much for the improvement of home and community life.

I have watched with keen interest the steady march forward and the splendid achievements of the South Carolina Home Demonstration women. Throughout the years they have made an earnest study of the greatest of all professions,

that of homemaking. They have improved the diet and health of ^{our} ~~their~~ families; they have done much to make ^{our} ~~their~~ homes attractive, convenient and comfortable; they have beautified ^{our} ~~their~~ surroundings; and they have added appreciably to the cash income of the farm families.

The farm women have not limited their activities to the home, however, for they have realized that life in the ~~the~~ community also affects ~~the~~ life in the ~~the~~ home; ~~and~~ so they have tackled community problems too; providing better recreational facilities; cooperating in establishing and maintaining rural libraries; getting rural telephone and electric lines run; beautifying school, church and other public grounds; assisting in religious activities; and for the past year emphasizing the improvement of community health conditions.

Over 10,000 home demonstration women in 961 communities sponsored varied health activities in 1946. County Health Units and other organizations united with the rural women and girls in eradicating mosquitoes, flies and rats; in holding health clinics; in securing better dental care; in making health surveys; in contributing food and equipment to school lunch rooms and to local hospitals; and in raising funds for crippled children, cancer control and additions to county hospitals.

In South Carolina the home demonstration women are organized into county, district and state Councils of Farm Women, with Mrs. O. J. Smyrl of Kershaw County as their State President. The State Council of Farm Women is a member of the South Carolina Women's Council for the Common Good. Through these organizations they have made their influence felt in their counties and their State. They have studied and participated in national and international affairs. All clubs held meetings at which they discussed the United Nations Charter while many had programs on Peoples of Other Lands.

The State Council of Farm Women is an active member of the Associated Country Women of the World. Through this organization they have contributed generously to help rehabilitate rural homes in Norway and other war-ridden countries.

The Home Demonstration clubs have sent food and clothing to War Relief Agencies.

Through their club and council work the Home Demonstration women have developed a strong, active, and enthusiastic leadership--a leadership which has already accomplished much and which will, in the years ahead, mean more and more to rural America.

Congratulations, rural leaders, and more power to you!